#### **CLAIMS**

1. A compound having the structural formula IB or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

$$X_7$$
 $X_6$ 
 $X_4$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_4$ 

formula IB

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are independently selected from the group comprising oxo, hydrogen, hydroxyl, oxyalkyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthiocarbonyl, alkanoyi, cycloalkylalkyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, cycloalkylalkanoyl, cycloalkylthiocarbonyl, cycloalkylalkoxycarbonyl, cycloalkylalkoxythiocarbonyl, cycloalkylthioalkyl, alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, cycloalkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, silyloxyalkyl, aralkyl, arylalkenyl, arylcarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, aralkoxycarbonyl, arylalkylthiocarbonyl, aryloxyalky, arylthioalkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aralkanoyl, aroyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxyalkanoyl, carboxyl, alkenylcarbonyl, alkynylcarbonyl, Het¹, Het¹alkyl, Het¹oxyalkyl, Het¹aryl, Het¹aralkyl, Het<sup>1</sup>cycloalkyl. Het<sup>1</sup>alkoxycarbonyl, Het<sup>1</sup>alkylthiocarbonyl, Het<sup>1</sup>oxycarbonyl, Het¹thiocarbonyl, Het¹alkanoyl, Het¹aralkanoyl, Het¹aryloxyalkyl, Het¹alkyloxyalkyl, Het<sup>1</sup>arylthioalkyl, Het¹aryloxycarbonyl, Het¹aralkoxycarbonyl, Het¹aroyl, Het¹oxyalkylcarbonyl, Het<sup>1</sup>alkyloxyalkylcarbonyl, Het¹aryloxyalkylcarbonyl, Het¹carbonyloxyalkyl, Het¹alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, Het¹aralkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, Het²alkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>oxyalkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>alkyloxyalkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>aralkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>carbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup>oxycarbonyl, Het²thiocarbonyl, Het²alkanoyl, Het²alkylthiocarbonyl, Het²alkoxycarbonyl, Het²aralkanoyl, Het<sup>2</sup>aralkoxycarbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup>aryloxycarbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup>aroyl, Het<sup>2</sup>aryloxyalkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>arylthioalkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>oxyalkylcarbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup>alkyloxyalkylcarbonyl, Het²aryloxyalkylcarbonyl, Het²carbonyloxyalkyl, Het²alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, Het²aralkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, CR3=NR4, CR3=N(OR4), aminocarbonyl, aminoalkanoyl, aminoalkyl, optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>, cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(alkyl)aminocarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylS(=O)t, hydroxy, cyano, halogen or amino optionally mono- or disubstituted wherein the substituents are independently

selected from the group comprising alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, aryloxy, arylamino, arylthio, aryloxyalkyl, arylaminoalkyl, aralkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxy, aryloxyalkoxy, aylaminoalkoxy, aralkylamino, aryloxyalkylamino, arylaminoalkylamino, arylthioalkoxy, arylthioalkylamino, aralkylthio, aryloxyalkylthio, arylaminoalkylthio, arylthioalkylthio, alkylamino, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>, Het<sup>1</sup>alkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>alkyl, Het<sup>1</sup>amino, Het<sup>2</sup>amino, Het<sup>1</sup>alkylamino, Het<sup>2</sup>alkylamino, Het<sup>1</sup>thio, Het<sup>2</sup>thio, Het<sup>1</sup>alkylthio, Het<sup>2</sup>alkylthio, Het<sup>1</sup>oxy and Het<sup>2</sup>oxy, OR<sup>3</sup>,  $SR^3$ ,  $SO_2NR^3R^4$ ,  $SO_2N(OH)R^3$ , CN,  $CR^3=NR^4$ ,  $S(O)R^3$ ,  $SO_2R^3$ ,  $CR^3=N(OR^4)$ ,  $N_3$ ,  $NO_2$ ,  $NR^{3}R^{4}, \quad N(OH)R^{3}, \quad C(O)R^{3}, \quad C(S)R^{3}, \quad CO_{2}R^{3}, \quad C(O)SR^{3}, \quad C(O)NR^{3}R^{4}, \quad C(S)NR^{3}R^{4}, \quad C(S$  $C(O)N(OH)R^4$ ,  $C(S)N(OH)R^3$ ,  $NR^3C(O)R^4$ ,  $NR^3C(S)R^4$ ,  $N(OH)C(O)R^4$ ,  $N(OH)C(S)R^3$ , NR<sup>3</sup>CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, NR3C(O)NR4R5, NR³C(S)NR⁴R⁵, N(OH)CO₂R³, and  $N(OH)C(O)NR^3R^4$ ,  $N(OH)C(S)NR^3R^4$ ,  $NR^3C(O)N(OH)R^4$ ,  $NR^3C(S)N(OH)R^4$ ,  $NR^3SO_2R^4$ , NHSO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>3</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sup>4</sup>, P(O)(OR<sup>3</sup>)(OR<sup>4</sup>), wherein t is an integer between 1 and 2 and R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are each independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkenyl. alkynyl, aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino alkylthiocarbonylamino and arylthiocarbonylamino;

wherein  $X_3$  participates together with  $X_3$ ' to an oxo functional group, or wherein  $X_3$ is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, sulfur, oxyalkyl, oxycarbonyl, alkyl, Het<sup>1</sup>alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aminoalkyl, aminoacyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylthiocarbonylamino, Het1, glycosyl, thio derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected derivatives thereof, alkyloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl,  $\mathrm{Het}^1$ ,  $\mathrm{Het}^2$ , cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl and aminocarbonyl; and  $\mathrm{X_3}^1$  is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, Het1, glycosyl, thio derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected derivatives thereof, aralkyl, and optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het², cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(alkyl)aminocarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylS(=O), hydroxy, cyano, halogen or amino optionally mono- or disubstituted wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, aryloxy, arylamino, arylthio, aryloxyalkyl, arylaminoalkyl, aralkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxy, aryloxyalkoxy. aylaminoalkoxy, aralkylamino, aryloxyalkylamino, arylaminoalkylamino, arylthioalkoxy, arylthioalkylamino, aralkylthio, aryloxyalkylthio, arylaminoalkylthio, arylthioalkylthio, alkylamino, cycloalkyl and cycloalkylalkyl;

wherein  $X_4$  and  $X_7$  are independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, halogen, oxogen, oxo, carbonyl, thiocarbonyl, hydroxyl, alkyl, aryl,  $\text{Het}^1$ ,

glycosyl, thio derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected derivatives thereof, Het¹alkyl, Het<sup>1</sup>aryl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonylaikyi, hydroxycarbonylaryl, hydroxycarbonyloxyalkyl hydroxycarbonyloxyaryl; aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(alkyl)aminocarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylS(=O)t, hydroxy, aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, cyano, halogen or amino optionally mono- or disubstituted wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, aryloxy, arylamino, arylthio, aryloxyalkyl, arylaminoalkyl, aralkoxy. alkylthio, alkoxy, aryloxyalkoxy, aylaminoalkoxy, aralkylamino. aryloxyalkylamino, arylaminoalkylamino, arylthioalkoxy, arylthioalkylamino, aralkylthio, aryloxyalkylthio, arylaminoalkylthio, arylthioalkylthio, alkylamino, Het<sup>1</sup>. Het<sup>2</sup>, aikyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, cycloalkyl and cycloalkylalkyl;

wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 4 and 5 or between carbon atoms in position 5 and 6, and  $X_6$  is independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl and hydroxyalkyl, or wherein  $X_5$  and  $X_6$  are independently selected from the group comprising halogen, hydrogen, hydroxyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>, cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, and

wherein n is an integer between 0 and 10,

provided that when  $X_6$  and  $X_4$  are H, when  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 5 and 6, when  $X_3$  participates together with  $X_3$ ' to an oxo functional group, when n is zero and  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are H,  $X_7$  is not hydroxyl.

## 2. A compound according to claim 1,

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are independently selected from the group comprising oxo, hydrogen, hydroxyl, oxyalkyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl. alkylthiocarbonyl, alkanoyi, cycloalkylalkyl. cycloalkylcarbonyl, cycloalkylalkanoyl, cycloalkylthiocarbonyl, cycloalkylalkoxycarbonyl, cycloalkylalkoxythiocarbonyl, cycloalkylthioalkyl, alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, cycloalkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, silyloxyalkyl, aralkyl, arylalkenyl, arylcarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, arylthiocarbonyl, aralkoxycarbonyl, arylalkylthiocarbonyl, aryloxyalky, arylthioalkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aralkanoyl, aroyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxyalkanoyl, carboxyl, alkenylcarbonyl, alkynylcarbonyl, Het¹, Het¹alkyl, Het¹oxyalkyl, Het¹aryl, Het¹aralkyl, Het¹cycloalkyl. Het<sup>1</sup>alkoxycarbonyl, Het<sup>1</sup>alkylthiocarbonyl, Het<sup>1</sup>oxycarbonyl. Het¹thiocarbonyl, Het¹alkanoyl, Het¹aralkanoyl, Het¹aryloxyalkyl, Het¹alkyloxyalkyl,

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Het<sup>1</sup>arylthioalkyl, Het<sup>1</sup>aryloxycarbonyl, Het<sup>1</sup>aralkoxycarbonyl, Het<sup>1</sup>aroyl, Het<sup>1</sup>oxyalkylcarbonyl, Het¹alkyloxyalkylcarbonyl, Het¹aryloxyalkylcarbonyl, Het¹carbonyloxyalkyl, Het¹alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, Het¹aralkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, Het²alkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>oxyalkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>alkyloxyalkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>aralkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>carbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup>oxycarbonyl, Het²thiocarbonyl, Het²alkanoyl, Het²alkylthiocarbonyl, Het²alkoxycarbonyl, Het²aralkanoyl, Het²aralkoxycarbonyl, Het²aryloxycarbonyl, Het²aroyl, Het²aryloxyalkyl, Het²arylthioalkyl, Het<sup>2</sup>oxyalkylcarbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup>alkyloxyalkylcarbonyl, Het<sup>2</sup>aryloxyalkylcarbonyl, Het²carbonyloxyalkyl, Het²alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, Het²aralkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, CR3=NR4, CR3=N(OR4), aminocarbonyl, aminoalkanoyl, aminoalkyl, optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>, cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(alkyl)aminocarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylS(=O)t, hydroxy, cyano, halogen or amino optionally mono- or disubstituted wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, aryloxy, arylamino, arylthio, aryloxyalkyl, arylaminoalkyl, aralkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxy, aryloxyalkoxy, aylaminoalkoxy, aralkylamino, aryloxyalkylamino, arylaminoalkylamino, arylthioalkoxy, arylthioalkylamino, aralkylthio, aryloxyalkylthio, arylaminoalkylthio, arylthioalkylthio, alkylamino, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, Het¹, Het², Het¹alkyl, Het²alkyl, Het¹amino, Het¹amino, Het¹alkylamino, Het<sup>2</sup>alkylamino, Het<sup>1</sup>thio, Het<sup>2</sup>thio, Het<sup>1</sup>alkylthio, Het<sup>2</sup>alkylthio, Het<sup>1</sup>oxy and Het<sup>2</sup>oxy, OR<sup>3</sup>, SR<sup>3</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>N(OH)R<sup>3</sup>, CN, CR<sup>3</sup>=NR<sup>4</sup>, S(O)R<sup>3</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>3</sup>, CR<sup>3</sup>=N(OR<sup>4</sup>), N<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>,  $NR^{3}R^{4}, \quad N(OH)R^{3}, \quad C(O)R^{3}, \quad C(S)R^{3}, \quad CO_{2}R^{3}, \quad C(O)SR^{3}, \quad C(O)NR^{3}R^{4}, \quad C(S)NR^{3}R^{4}, \quad C(S$ NR³CO₂R⁴, NR3C(O)NR4R5, NR³C(S)NR⁴R⁵, and N(OH)CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>3</sup>, NR3C(O)SR4,  $N(OH)C(O)NR^3R^4,\ N(OH)C(S)NR^3R^4,\ NR^3C(O)N(OH)R^4,\ NR^3C(S)N(OH)R^4,\ NR^3SO_2R^4,$ NHSO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>3</sup>R<sup>4</sup>, NR<sup>3</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>NHR<sup>4</sup>, P(O)(OR<sup>3</sup>)(OR<sup>4</sup>), wherein t is an integer between 1 and 2 and R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are each independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl. aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino alkylthiocarbonylamino and arylthiocarbonylamino;

wherein  $X_3$  participates together with  $X_3$ ' to an oxo functional group, or wherein  $X_3$  is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, sulfur, oxyalkyl, oxycarbonyl, alkyl, Het¹alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aminoalkyl, aminoacyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylthiocarbonylamino, Het¹, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl, erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, xylofuranosyl, lyxosyl, talosyl, psicosyl, idosyl, gulosyl, altrosyl, allosyl, mannoheptulosyl, sedoheptulosyl, abequosyl, isomaltosyl, kojibiosyl, laminarabiosyl,

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nigerosyl, primeverosyl, rutinosyl, tyvelosyl, maltosyl, lactosyl, sucrosyl, cellobiosyl, trehalosyl, gentiobiosyl, melibiosyl, turanosyl, sophorosyl, isosucrosyl, raffinosyl, gentianosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy mannosyl, 2-acetamido-2deoxy-mannosyl, 2-amino-1,3-cyclohexanediol, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, di-, tri-, oligo- and polysaccharide thereof, alkyloxycarbonyl, optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>, cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl and aminocarbonyl; and  $X_3$  is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, Het<sup>1</sup>, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl, erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, xylofuranosyl, lyxosyl, talosyl, psicosyl, idosyl, gulosyl, altrosyl, allosyl, mannoheptulosyl, sedoheptulosyl, abequosyl, isomaltosyl, kojibiosyl, laminarabiosyl, nigerosyl, primeverosyl, rutinosyl, tyvelosyl, maltosyl, lactosyl, sucrosyl, cellobiosyl, trehalosyl, gentiobiosyl, melibiosyl, turanosyl, sophorosyl, isosucrosyl, raffinosyl, gentianosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2deoxy-galactosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy mannosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-mannosyl, 2-amino-1,3-cyclohexanediol, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, di-, tri-, oligo- and polysaccharide thereof, aralkyl, and optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het1, Het2, cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl. monodi(alkyl)aminocarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, alkylS(=O)t, hydroxy, cyano, halogen or amino optionally mono- or disubstituted wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, aryloxy, arylamino, arylthio, aryloxyalkyl, arylaminoalkyl, aralkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxy, aryloxyalkoxy, aylaminoalkoxy, aralkylamino, aryloxyalkylamino, arylaminoalkylamino, arylthioalkoxy, arylthioalkylamino, aralkylthio, aryloxyalkylthio, arylaminoalkylthio, arylthioalkylthio, alkylamino, cycloalkyl cycloalkylalkyl;

wherein  $X_4$  and  $X_7$  are independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, oxygen, halogen, oxo, carbonyl, thiocarbonyl, hydroxyl, alkyl, aryl,  $Het^1$ , glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl,

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erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, xylofuranosyl, lyxosyl, talosyl, psicosyl, idosyl, gulosyl, altrosyl, allosyl, mannoheptulosyl, sedoheptulosyl, abequosyl, isomaltosyl, kojibiosyl, laminarabiosyl, nigerosyl, primeverosyl, rutinosyl, tyvelosyl, maltosyl, lactosyl, sucrosyl, cellobiosyl, trehalosyl, gentiobiosyl, melibiosyl, turanosyl, sophorosyl, isosucrosyl, raffinosyl, gentianosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2deoxy-galactosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy mannosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-mannosyl, 2-amino-1,3-cyclohexanediol, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, di-, tri-, oligo- and polysaccharide thereof; Het<sup>1</sup>alkyi, Het<sup>1</sup>aryl. alkenyl, alkynyi, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonylalkyl, hydroxycarbonylaryl, hydroxycarbonyloxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyloxyaryl; aminocarbonyl, monodi(alkyl)aminocarbonyl, or aminosulfonyl, alkylS(=O)t, hydroxy, aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, cyano, halogen or amino optionally mono- or disubstituted wherein the substituents are independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, aryloxy, arylamino, aryloxyalkyl, arylaminoalkyl, aralkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxy, aryloxyalkoxy, aylaminoalkoxy, aralkylamino, aryloxyalkylamino, arylaminoalkylamino, arylthioalkoxy, arylthioalkylamino, aralkylthio, aryloxyalkylthio, arylaminoalkylthio, arylthioalkylthio, alkylamino, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>. alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, cycloalkyl and cycloalkylalkyl;

wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 4 and 5 or between carbon atoms in positions 5 and 6, and  $X_6$  is independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl and hydroxyalkyl, or

wherein  $X_5$  and  $X_6$  are independently selected from the group comprising halogen hydrogen, hydroxyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>, cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, and

wherein n is an integer between 0 and 10.

## 3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2,

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, oxyalkyl, oxo, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylthiocarbonyl, alkanoyl, cycloalkylalkanoyl, cycloalkylalkanoyl, cycloalkylalkoxycarbonyl, cycloalkylalkoxythiocarbonyl, cycloalkylalkoxythioalkyl, alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl,

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cycloalkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, silyloxyalkyl, aralkyl, arylalkenyl, arylcarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, arylthiocarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, arylalkylthiocarbonyl, aryloxyalky, arylthioalkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, aralkanoyl, aroyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxyalkanoyl, carboxyl, alkenylcarbonyl and alkynylcarbonyl;

wherein  $X_3$  participates together with  $X_3$  to an oxo functional group, or wherein  $X_3$ is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, sulfur, oxyalkyl, oxycarbonyl alkyl, Het¹alkyl. alkenyl, alkynyl, aminoalkyl, aminoacyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylthiocarbonylamino, Het<sup>1</sup>, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl, erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, xylofuranosyl, lyxosyl, talosyl, psicosyl, idosyl, gulosyl, altrosyl, allosyl, mannoheptulosyl, sedoheptulosyl, abequosyl, isomaltosyl, kojibiosyl, laminarabiosyl, nigerosyl, primeverosyl, rutinosyl, tyvelosyl, maltosyl, lactosyl, sucrosyl, cellobiosyl, trehalosyl, gentiobiosyl, melibiosyl, turanosyl, sophorosyl, isosucrosyl, raffinosyl, gentianosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy mannosyl, 2-acetamido-2deoxy-mannosyl, 2-amino-1,3-cyclohexanediol, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, disaccharide thereof, trisaccharide thereof, oligosaccharide and polysaccharide thereof, alkyloxycarbonyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het1,  $Het^2$ , cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl and aminocarbonyl; and  $X_3$  is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, Het1, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl, erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, xylofuranosyl, lyxosyl, talosyl, psicosyl, idosyl, gulosyl, altrosyl, allosyl, mannoheptulosyl, sedoheptulosyl, abequosyl, isomaltosyl, kojibiosyl, laminarabiosyl, nigerosyl, primeverosyl, rutinosyl, tyvelosyl, maltosyl, lactosyl, sucrosyl, cellobiosyl, trehalosyl, gentiobiosyl, melibiosyl, turanosyl, sophorosyl, isosucrosyl, raffinosyl, gentianosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, 2-amino-2deoxy mannosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-mannosyl, 2-amino-1,3-cyclohexanediol, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, disaccharide thereof, trisaccharide thereof, oligosaccharide and polysaccharide thereof;

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wherein  $X_4$  and  $X_7$  are independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, oxo, carbonyl, thiocarbonyl, hydroxyl, alkyl, aryl, Het¹, Het¹alkyl, Het<sup>1</sup>aryl, alkenyi, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonylalkyl, alkynyl. hydroxycarbonylaryl, hydroxycarbonyloxyalkyl, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl, erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, xylofuranosyl, lyxosyl, talosyl, psicosyl, idosyl, gulosyl, altrosyl, allosyl, mannoheptulosyl, sedoheptulosyl, abequosyl, isomaltosyl, kojibiosyl, laminarabiosyl, nigerosyl, primeverosyl, rutinosyl, tyvelosyl, maltosyl, lactosyl, sucrosyl, cellobiosyl, trehalosyl, gentiobiosyl, melibiosyl, turanosyl, sophorosyl, isosucrosyl, raffinosyl, gentianosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy mannosyl, 2acetamido-2-deoxy-mannosyl, 2-amino-1,3-cyclohexanediol, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, disaccharide thereof, trisaccharide thereof, oligosaccharide and polysaccharide thereof:

wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 4 and 5 or between carbon atoms in positions 5 and 6, and  $X_6$  is independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, and hydroxyalkyl, or wherein  $X_5$  and  $X_6$  are independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, hydroxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>, cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, and

wherein n is an integer between 0 and 5.

# 4. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 3,

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyloxy, oxo and oxyalkyl,

wherein  $X_3$  participates together with  $X_3$ ' to an oxo functional group, or wherein  $X_3$  is selected from the group comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, oxyalkyl, oxycarbonyl, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl, erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy mannosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-mannosyl, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination

thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, disaccharide thereof, trisaccharide thereof, oligosaccharide and polysaccharide thereof; and  $X'_3$  is selected from the group comprising alkyl, aryl and aralkyl, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl, erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-mannosyl, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, disaccharide thereof, trisaccharide thereof, oligosaccharide and polysaccharide thereof;

wherein  $X_4$  and  $X_7$  are independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, oxygen, oxo, hydroxyl, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, ribosyl, ribulosyl, xylulosyl, erythrosyl, erythrulosyl, rhamnosyl, threosyl, sorbosyl, psicosyl, tagatosyl, fucosyl, arabinosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-mannosyl, L or D isomers thereof,  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  form thereof, pyranose or furanose form thereof, combination thereof, deoxy derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected acetate derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, thio derivatives thereof, disaccharide thereof, trisaccharide thereof, oligosaccharide and polysaccharide thereof;

wherein  $X_5$  and  $X_6$  are hydrogen or wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 4 and 5, and  $X_6$  is hydrogen, and

wherein n is an integer between 0 and 2.

# 5. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4,

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_6$ ,  $X_7$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected from the group indicated in claims 1 to 3; and

wherein  $X_4$  is equal to  $X_5$  and is selected from the group comprising halogen, aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl,  $\text{Het}^1$ ,  $\text{Het}^2$ , cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl and aminocarbonyl, or wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 5 and 6, and  $X_4$  is independently selected from the group comprising hydrogen, aminoalkyl, aminoaryl, optionally substituted by one or

more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, aralkyl, aryl, Het<sup>1</sup>, Het<sup>2</sup>, cycloalkyl, alkyloxy, alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl and aminocarbonyl.

- 6. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are –OMe, wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are –H, wherein  $X_4$  is hydrogen, wherein  $X_3$  participates together with  $X_3$ ' to an oxo functional group, wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 4 and 5, wherein  $X_6$  is hydrogen, wherein  $X_7$  is hydroxyl, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, fucosyl, cellobiosyl, gentiobiosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, disaccharide or trisaccharide thereof; and wherein n is 0.
- 7. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are –OMe, wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are –H, wherein  $X_3$  is hydrogen, hydroxyl, oxyalkyl or oxycarbonyl, wherein  $X_3$  is glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, fucosyl, cellobiosyl, gentiobiosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, a disaccharide or a trisaccharide thereof, wherein  $X_4$  is hydrogen, wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 5 and 6, wherein  $X_6$  is –H, wherein  $X_7$  is hydrogen, oxygen, hydroxyl or oxo, and wherein n is 0.
- 8. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are –OMe, wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are –H, wherein  $X_3$  is glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, fucosyl, cellobiosyl, gentiobiosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, a disaccharide or a trisaccharide thereof, wherein  $X_3$  is hydrogen, alkyl or aralkyl, wherein  $X_4$  is hydrogen, wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 5 and 6, wherein  $X_6$  is –H, wherein  $X_7$  is hydrogen, oxygen, hydroxyl or oxo, and wherein n is 0.
- 9. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are –OMe, wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are –H, wherein  $X_3$  participates together with  $X_3$ ' to an oxo functional group, wherein  $X_4$  is hydroxyl, glucosyl, fructosyl, galactosyl, mannosyl, fucosyl, cellobiosyl, gentiobiosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy glucosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-glucosyl, 2-amino-2-deoxy galactosyl, 2-acetamido-2-deoxy-galactosyl, a disaccharide or a trisaccharide thereof, wherein  $X_5$  participates to a double bond between the carbon atoms in position 5 and 6, wherein  $X_6$  is –H, wherein  $X_7$  is hydrogen, oxygen, hydroxyl or oxo, and wherein n is 0.
- 10. Compound of formula IB a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_4$ ,  $X_5$ ,  $X_6$ ,  $X_7$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected as indicated in Table A or Table B.
- 11. Method for synthesizing a compound having the structural formula IB

$$X_7$$
 $X_6$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_4$ 
 $X_6$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_4$ 
 $X_6$ 
 $X_5$ 
 $X_4$ 
 $X_6$ 
 $X_6$ 

formula IB

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_4$ ,  $X_5$ ,  $X_6$ ,  $X_7$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10, said method comprising the steps of

a) providing a starting material having the structural formula IV,

formula IV

wherein  $X_3$ ,  $X_3$  and  $X_7$  are selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10, and wherein P is a protecting group,

b) effecting reaction between the compound of step a) with an organometallic compound having the structural formula V

$$R_1$$
 $X_1$ 
 $R_2$ 
 $(CH_2)n-W-Hall$ 

#### formula V

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10, wherein W is a metal or a combination of metals and wherein Hal is a halogen atom,

to result in an intermediate having the structural formula III'B

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$$\begin{array}{c|c} X_3 \\ X_3 \\ Y_3 \\ Y_4 \\ Y_2 \\ \end{array}$$

### formula III'B

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_7$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10, and wherein p is a protecting group,

c) effecting reaction between the compound of step b) with an organometallic compound having the structural formula VI

Hal-W-X'3

#### formula VI

wherein  $X'_3$  is selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10, wherein W is a metal or a combination of metals, and wherein Hal is a halogen atom,

to result in an intermediate having the structural formula IIIB

$$X_3 \times X_1 \times X_1 \times X_2 \times X_2$$

formula IIIB

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_7$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10, wherein P is a protecting group,

d) deprotecting the  $X_7$  group of the compound obtained in step c) to form an compound having the structural formula IIB

$$X_7$$
 $X_3$ 
 $X_1$ 
 $X_1$ 
 $X_2$ 
 $X_2$ 

formula II B

wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_7$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10, and

- e) oxidizing by reaction with a suitable oxidizing agent or agents to from a compound of formula IB or
- e) coupling an O-protected glycosyl or non-protected glycosyl to form a compound of formula IIB wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X'_3$ ,  $X_7$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10 and  $X_7$  is an O-protected glycosyl or a non-protected glycosyl, and
- f) deprotecting the O-protected groups of glycosyl to form a compound of formula IB wherein  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$ ,  $X_4$ ,  $X_5$ ,  $X_6$ ,  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and n are selected from the group as indicated in any of claims 1 to 10, and  $X_7$  is a glycosyl, thio derivatives thereof, amino derivatives thereof, hydroxyl-protected derivatives thereof.
- 12. A compound obtainable by any of the steps according to the method of claim 11.
- 13. A compound designated as compound UBS1664

14. A compound designated as compound UBS3327.

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### **UBS3327**

15. A compound designated as compound UBS3328.

#### **UBS3328**

- 16. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 10 and 12 to 15 for use as a medicament.
- 17. Use of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 10 and 12 to 15 for the preparation of a medicament for treating cancer.
- 18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 10 and 12 to 15.
- 19. Use of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 in the treatment of cancer.
- 20. Method of treating cancer comprising administrating to an individual in need of such treatment a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18.